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First name: Daniel

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Slater Turner and the Ochoco National Forest,

I would like to voice my support for the Lemon Gulch trail proposal. The Environmental Assessment outlines a well planned and studied plan for a mountain bike trail network. The Ochoco Forest Management Plan specifies a need for 468 miles of non-motorized trails, including mountain bike trails. Currently there are only 156.5 miles in the Ochocos, none of which have a primary purpose for mountain biking. The Lemon Gulch proposal represents the perfect opportunity for the USFS to begin filling the need for recreational opportunities in the Ochocos as specified in the 1989 Forest plan.

As a mountain biker, I don't believe that a downhill oriented trail is the best solution. We should prioritize trails that are appropriate for all abilities. By providing this type of experience, in a range of difficulties, mountain bikers will much less likely to choose other trail areas in the Ochocos.

The benefits of mountain biking to small communities can not be overstated. Most importantly, Prineville residents deserve trails for health and recreation. It's one of the things that makes for happy and healthy people and that's something that we should be interested in helping to build.

Thank you for your consideration,

Daniel